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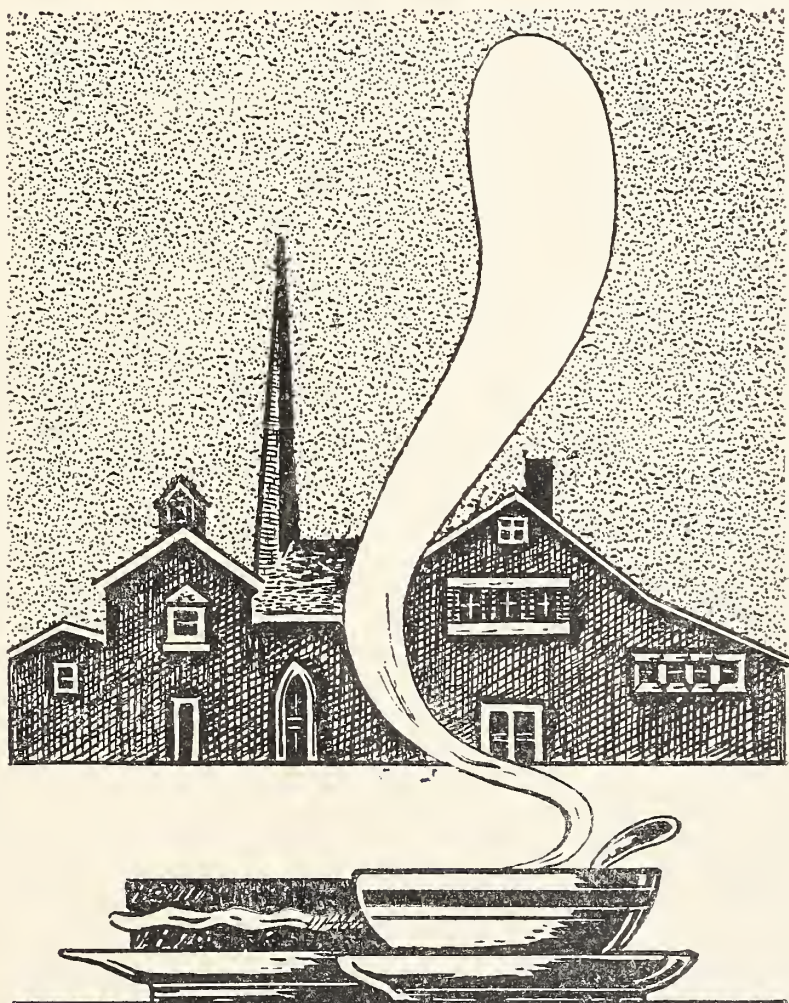
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U. S. Department of Agriculture

# SCHOOL LUNCHES *and the* COMMUNITY



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SURPLUS MARKETING ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. SMA — SL 7

After the necessary equipment is secured, there is still the question of daily management and organization. Who is to cook and serve the meals, look after the supplies, and keep the cooking utensils clean and in good working order?

This problem, too, has been met by the community. Wherever possible, the services of cooks and helpers have been supplied by other Federal Government agencies, principally the Work Projects Administration and the National Youth Administration. When such help was not available, teachers in small schools have volunteered to cook and serve the lunches with the help of the pupils. In other instances the mothers, or the members of a local club or civic organization have taken turns doing the job.

Additional food is important. Sometimes arrangements have been made with local farmers and parents for contributions of milk, fresh vegetables, and other products. Bakeries often have donated bread, or charged a minimum for it. Stores or warehouses have made available, without charge, cold-storage space for perishable surplus foods.

### **Reaching more children.**

That is how thousands of communities all over the country have already organized school lunch programs to fight malnutrition among their children. During the 1939-40 school year, the number of children getting daily school lunches increased from eight hundred thousand to three million. Plans for the 1940-41 year call for making room at the school lunch table for twice as many. This would mean that six million children would be on their way to better health.

If local communities accept the challenge to do something now for their needy children, the six million can be served this year, and the rest can be reached soon.

COMMUNITIES CAN GET ASSISTANCE IN ORGANIZING SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS, AND FIELD INFORMATION ON THE SURPLUS FOODS, BY WRITING TO THEIR STATE DIRECTOR OF COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION AT THEIR STATE WELFARE AGENCY, OR DIRECTLY TO THE SURPLUS MARKETING ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.